“Use of the e-resources by the users of engineering college libraries in Maharashtra State: A Survey”

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1. Introduction:

Information Technology and its developments regarding computers, telecommunication, electronics, reprography and micro-graphy have been taking place in libraries and all these have also brought conceptual changes in the library system. Now it has made possible to libraries for being receptive to take advantages of new technological development.

The electronic resources available in a library play prominent role in facilitating access to the required information to the user in an expediency manner. The e-resources provide**s** 24x7 access to the library users without physical boundaries users can easily access e-resources on the desktop , laptop or at their mobile phones. E-resources are becoming most popular source of information among the library users and researchers.

With the technological developments, the use of e-resources now a days becoming a new trend in libraries and information centers. E-book, e-journals, e-newspapers, e-thesis, e-dissertation, e-databases and CD-ROM's, which are likely to be the alternative to the print media. Emerald, EBSCO, IEEE, Springer, Scopus, ASME are some of the examples of online databases. All updated information is published in these e-resources. The important feature of the e-resources is that they provides updated information access without any physical boundaries. In order to keep the library users abreast with recent trends in their respective area of study, the use of electronic resources becomes one of the important necessity in the libraries.

The aim of this study is to identity the trends of the e-resources usage by the library users of the engineering college libraries. Further the study also examines the usage pattern, acceptance, perceived importance and satisfaction on e-resources over print resources.

1.1 E-resources:

E-resources originated from the concept of e-publishing, since 1985 significant developments have taken place on electronic publishing. The concept of document on paper is being changed to "electronic document" i.e. e-document or electronic resources. Electronic resources can be defined as "the document resources existing in an electronic form to be accessed by computer".

The electronic resources are the resources in which information is stored electronically and accessible via electronic system and network. E-resources is a very broader term that includes a variety of different publishing models, including CD-ROM's, online database, e-journals, e-book, e-thesis, electronic link and web publishing etc.

According to AFLA-International Standard Bibliographic Description (e-resources)

An electronic resource consists of materials that are computer controlled. Including materials that required the use of peripheral (e.g. a CD-ROM player) attached a computer and items may or may not be used in the interactive mode.

According to AACR2 (Anglo American Cataloguing Rules)

An electronic resources is material (data and or programs) be encoded for manipulation by a computerized device. This material may require the use of peripheral directly connected to a computerized device (e.g.CD-ROM drive) or a connection to a computer network (e.g. the internet).

1.1.1 Types of e-resources:

The e-resources of a library basically includes the following, which should be acquired by library as per its needs, infrastructure, facilities, financial provision etc.

- CD-ROM's
- E- databases
- E-books
- E-thesis and dissertations
- E-newspaper
- E-journals

1.2 Engineering Education:

Engineering education in India started during the British era and focused mainly on civil engineering. A brief history of engineering education in India is available in the Rao committee report and the Ministry of Human Resource Development website. The engineering college at Roorkee (1847), Poona Civil Engineering College at Pune (1854), Bengal Engineering College at Shibpur (1856), Banaras Hindu University (1916), Harcourt Butler Technological Institute, Kanpur (1920) were some of the engineering colleges established that continue till the present day.

In 1945 the Sarkar committee was appointed to suggest opinion for advanced technical education in India. The Sarkar committee recommended the establishment of higher technical institutes based on the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the four regions of India. This resulted in the setting up of the five Indian Institute of Technology at Kharagpur (1950), Bombay (1958), Kanpur (1959), Madras (1960) and Delhi (1961) (Delhi was added on to the original four). The all India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) was set up in 1945, to monitor all technical education (diploma, degree and post-graduate) in the country. Engineering is a

preferred career choice for a large number of students at the 10+2 level in India. To cope up with student choice a large number of private engineering colleges have been set up.

2. Statement of problem:

The statement of problem for this study is entitled **"Use of the e-resources by the users of engineering college libraries in Maharashtra State: A Survey"**. The present study tries to investigate how much users of engineering college libraries in Maharashtra are aware about e-resources and how they are utilizing e-resources for their research and knowledge about related subject. The researcher has mentioned the definitions of the terms mentioned in the statement of the problem as below-

i. Awareness :

The Cambridge Dictionary defines awareness means "Knowledge that something exists, or understanding of a situation or subject at the present time based on information or experience".

ii. Attitude :

The Cambridge Dictionary defines attitude means "A feeling or opinion about something or someone, or a way of behaving that is caused by this.

iii. Use :

The Cambridge Dictionary defines use means **"**To put something such as a tool, skill, or building to a particular purpose.

iv. E-Resources :

According to AACR2 (Anglo American Cataloguing Rules) - An electronic resources is material (data and or programs) be encoded for manipulation by a computerized device. This material may require the use of peripheral directly connected to a computerized device (e.g.CD-ROM drive) or a connection to a computer network (e.g. the internet).

v. Engineering College Library :

Sehgal, R.L. and Sethi, Sumit, has defined college library means, "A library established, maintained and administered by a college to meet the needs of its students and the faculty." Consequently, a college of engineering library is the one, which is run or administered by the engineering college/institution.

vi. Maharashtra State :

The state of Maharashtra is located on the west-central side of the Indian subcontinent. The land of Maharashtra is naturally a very large area plateau, so these plateaus are referred to as Deccan Plateau. The Arabian coast is to the west of the state. It has an area of 118, 809 square miles (307, 713 sq. km) and is connected to the borders of the states of Karnataka, Telangana, Goa, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

vii. Survey :

The Oxford Learners Dictionaries defines survey means "An investigation of the opinions, behaviour, etc. of a particular group of people, which is usually done by asking them questions"

3. Need of the study:

Information and Communication Technology has developed rapidly and has a great impact on information access. In the present era of information explosion more and more publications are becoming web concerned. Engineering college libraries are faced with the challenges to meet the user's requirements due to various reasons such as exponential growth of internet, price escalation and budget constraints. Moreover, there is change in the information searching habits of the library users. The development of electronic information has solved the problem of space in libraries. E-resources facilitate the academic libraries to get benefits reasonable cost and in minimal time.

Engineering is a branch of Science and Technology which uses advanced techniques for carrying out research engineering students and faculties in the world today are using the latest technologies. They need decent research in their respective fields. The technology has changed prospects of the users to accept services that are available on demand.

Electronic resources have become valuable source of information for the users of engineering science and technology field. Almost all users uses online journals. Users are becoming more and more familiar with e-resources and currently they have attempted to predict the use of e-resources through surveys. All engineering college libraries are acquiring e-resources which are being used by students and faculties the study tends to examine. What is the current awareness, attitude and use of e-resources by engineering college users has to be examined.

4. Importance of the study:

The present study will be helpful to investigate the attitude and awareness of the library users towards the e-Resources in the engineering discipline. The results of the study will help the

engineering colleges to choose/subscribe needful e-Resources for their library users. The study will be useful to find out the popular e-Resources among the users of the engineering college libraries. The findings of the study will be helpful to frame e-Resource development policy for the engineering college libraries.

5. Objectives of the study :

The following objectives are laid down for the present study -

i. To know the awareness about the use of e-resources among the engineering college library users.

ii. To find out the attitude and purpose of the engineering college library users behind the use of e-resources.

iii. To identity problems faced by users while accessing e-resources.

iv. To know the popular e-Resources among the library users and the frequency of the use of e-Resources by the library users.

v. To suggest the ways for the improvement of the use of e-resources.

6. Hypothesis:

Following hypothesis are considered for the present study.

i. The engineering college library users are very well aware about the availability and use of e-Resources.

ii. Most of the users prefer e-resources for research activities and for the completion of the project work.

iii. The users are facing the problem of huge data and non availability of single platform for

searching the information from e-Resources.

iv. Information Literacy skills of the library users are in developing stage.

7. Scope and limitation of the study:

The present research work is limited to NAAC Accredited Engineering Institute whereas different approaches can be applied for the studies of the libraries in Engineering and Technology Institutes. According to AICTE 361 Engineering and Technology Institutes exist in Maharashtra. As per statistics available in the month of March 2020, 208 engineering and Technology Institutes have been accredited by NAAC. The present study is limited only to the 208 NAAC Accredited Degree Engineering Colleges in the State of Maharashtra.

8. Research Methodology :

The present study will be carried out with survey and descriptive research method.

9. Tool for data collection :

Structured Questionnaire will be used as a tool for data collection. Random sample method will be used for collecting data.

10. Sample :

The data required for the present study will be collected from the students enrolled themselves for the fourth year of the degree. Randomly Ten students from every college will choose to collect the data via questionnaire. Total 2080 questionnaire will be circulated among the students.

11. Review of literature:

Ramdas Bhagwanrao Tekale (2018), conducted the study of "Use of electronic resources by researchers and faculties of agriculture universities in Maharashtra. The result shows that 77.85% faculties and 89.82% researchers are aware of e-database in their filed. Highly preferred 93.92% respondents of e-journals, email, e-books. 47.5% respondents have expressed the problem "more information retrieved" while using electronic resources.

Gurjeet Kaur (2017), conducted the study of "Electronic information resources in the libraries of research institutes of Punjab a study of their user's attitude and satisfaction." The result shows that 75.35% respondents has aware available e-resources and 94.47% respondents has using the e-resources for research work. The study also found that majority of respondent's access electronic information resources from their office/laboratories.

Ningappa Yekanath (2015), conducted the study of "Use of electronic information resources and services in Engineering College Libraries in Bangalore city a study." The result shows that

Kulveen Kaur and Kiran Kathuria (2016), in their paper titled "Awareness and use of e-resources: a case study of Mohinder Singh Randhawa Punjab agricultural university library, Ludhiana". Result shows that 72% users were aware about e-resources and more ever users has using e-resources for research work and project work. The present study also found that 75% users has given the first choice to the e-journals and 50% users has preferred both print and e-resources in their research and studies.

Samuel OluAdeyoyin, Taiwo A. Idowu and Adeniyi O. Sowole (2016), in their paper titled "Awareness, access and use of electronic information resources among the seminarians in

Nigeria" result found that 84.4% respondents has fully aware of Electronic information resources and 87.5% respondents has they use e-resources.

Joseph Jestin K J and Sornam S. Ally (2016) in their paper titled "Use of e-resources by the faculty members of engineering colleges in Kerala: a study." The result shows that majority of 30% faculty members are using e-resources once a week and 100% majority faculty members are using e-resources for teaching purpose. The study also found that 88.33% faculty members are use of desktop computer for accessing e-resources in campus. All faculty members are aware about the which e-resources packages are subscribed in the library.

Ghangare M B (2016) in their titled "Electronic resources use by faculty members of Engineering College Libraries in RTM Nagpur University area: a study." The result shows that 79.7% faculty are accepted of computer literacy is very important for using e-resources and 74% faculty members are needed latest information from e-resources for teaching purpose. The study also found that 82.70% faculty members are take help from internet for searching latest information.

Olatokunbo Christopher Okiki (2012), in their paper titled "Electronic information resources awareness, attitude and use by academic staff members of university of Lagos, Nigeria" result found that 54% respondents has unaware about e-resources and 46% respondents has aware about e-resources and they use on daily basis. The study has also found that 28% respondents has indicated the mainly use of e-journals and 18% respondents has use of e-books.

Sunil Kumar P. (2009), investigated the study of awareness, attitude and use of electronic resources in post graduates colleges in Kerala. The result shows that 32.1% respondents has aware general and subject related e-resources and 30.5% respondents has aware general e-resources and unaware subject specific e-resources and unaware respondents has

20.8%. The study also found that 92% of respondents still give their first choice to printed books. Only 5.9% respondents has given the first choice of electronic resources.

12. Conspectus :

- Chapter 1: Introduction
- Chapter 2: Review of literature
- Chapter 3: Engineering Education in India : An Overview
- Chapter 4: Data Analysis and Interpretation
- Chapter 5: Findings, Conclusions and Suggestions
- Appendix: Bibliography & Questionnaire

13. Research design plan:

Sr No.	Period in Month	Research Work Plan
1	06 Months	Collection of related literature data
2	06 Months	Distribute and Collecting Prepared Questionnaire
3	06 Months	Distribute and Collecting Prepared Questionnaire
4	06 Months	Analysis and interpretation of collected data
5	06 Months	Thesis writing
6	06 Months	Submission

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